

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

Animal Care & Control Program  
351 N. Mt. View Avenue  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0003  
Toll Free 1-800-472-5609 \*Fax (909) 387-0125

JIM LINDLEY, M.P.A.  
Public Health Director

PAULA MEARES-CONRAD  
Assistant Director of Public Health

MAXWELL OHIKHUARE, M.D.  
Health Officer

**June 2, 2009**

**PHD # 09-55**

**CONTACT:**

Dale Parker, Health Education Specialist II  
Animal Care & Control Program  
San Bernardino County  
(909)-387-9156

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**"June is Adopt A Shelter Cat Month!"**

The San Bernardino County Animal Care & Control (ACC) Program and the shelters that they operate, which include the Big Bear and Devore facilities, are partnering with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) to celebrate June as Adopt a Shelter Cat Month. This event is designed to bring attention to the wonderful "Adopt-a-Shelter Cat" Month to raise awareness about the importance of "making pet adoption your first option," especially considering the wide variety of beautiful cats and kittens in need of loving homes in shelters across the country.

"In today's economy, local shelters need their community's support," says ASPCA President and CEO Ed Sayres. "One of the kindest contributions the public can make is to adopt a new pet and give it the love and care it desperately needs. By celebrating June as Adopt-a-Shelter Cat Month, the ASPCA aims to raise awareness of the death situations faced by so many shelter cats every year."

According to the ASPCA it is estimated that approximately five to seven million companion animals enter animal shelters each year. Further, it is estimated that approximately 70 percent of the cats are euthanized, many of whom are healthy and adoptable-simply due to lack of space and resources.

"Spring and summer are the times of year when animal shelters are often over-flowing with cats of all ages, sizes, and colors," said Brian Cronin, ACC Division Chief. "We want to help raise awareness of this month in a fun way in order to bring home the reality that these cats need safe and loving homes. By adopting a feline friend, not only are you giving a shelter cat a second chance, but you will also have a lifelong companion who will bring many years of love and devotion to your family."

MARK UFFER  
County Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors  
BRAD MITZELFELT.....First District      NEIL DERRY.....Third District  
PAUL BIANE.....Second District      GARY OVITT.....Fourth District  
JOSIE GONZALES.....Fifth District

So, if you are looking to add a new four-legged, fluffy friend to your family we would like to encourage you to visit your local animal shelter and adopt one of the many homeless cats who are just waiting to shower you with affection. You can even visit our website at [www.sbcounty.gov](http://www.sbcounty.gov) and actually see all of the wonderful kitties that we have! For more information, please call the San Bernardino County Animal Care & Control Program toll free at 1-800-472-5609. Thank you.

####